

TAUNTON STATE HOSPITAL
Off Danforth Street
Taunton
Bristol County
Massachusetts

HABS NO. MA-1219

HABS
MASS.
3-TAUN,
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS AND
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Massachusetts	COUNTY Bristol	TOWN OR VICINITY Taunton
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) TAUNTON STATE HOSPITAL		HABS NO. MA-1219
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Danforth Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1851-53 (Massachusetts State documents)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Elbridge Boyden (Curtis Dahl)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) As the second insane asylum in Massachusetts, the Taunton State Hospital represents a superb example of the mid-19th century Classical Revival design and a turning point in the care of the mentally ill.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Classical Revival		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick with cast iron exterior wall fabric		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) E-plan		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Domes, cast iron capitals over brick pilasters, cast iron cornices		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Series of wings added to the rear of the structure		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE vacant in 1980		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register Form B, MHC inventory #617 "Taunton State Hospital: by Curtis Dahl, Wheaton College, Norton, Mass.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Massachusetts Historical Commission	DATE 10/87	